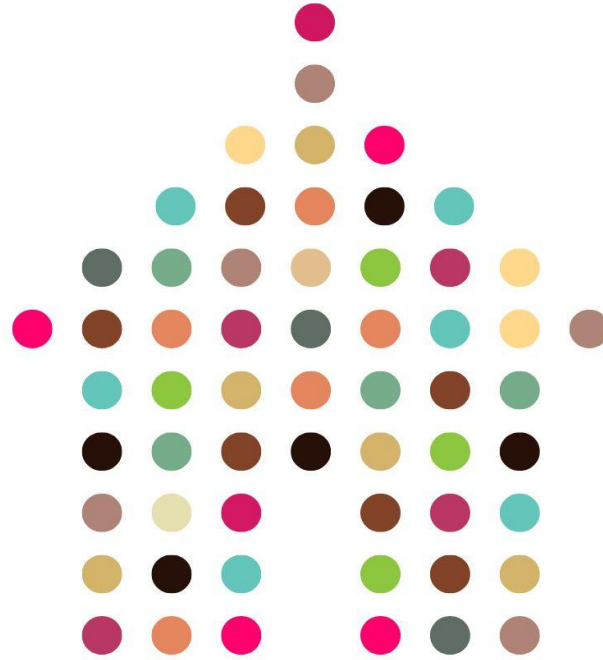




EPHESIANS

We are Jesus' Church

Confident Hope

Ephesians 1:1-14

This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus. I am writing to God's holy people in Ephesus, who are faithful followers of Christ Jesus. ² May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

³ All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. ⁴ Even before he made the world, God loved us and **chose us** in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. ⁵ God decided in advance to **adopt us** into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it **gave him great pleasure**. ⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. ⁷ He is so rich in kindness and grace that he **purchased our freedom** with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. ⁸ He has showered his kindness on us, along with all **wisdom and understanding**.

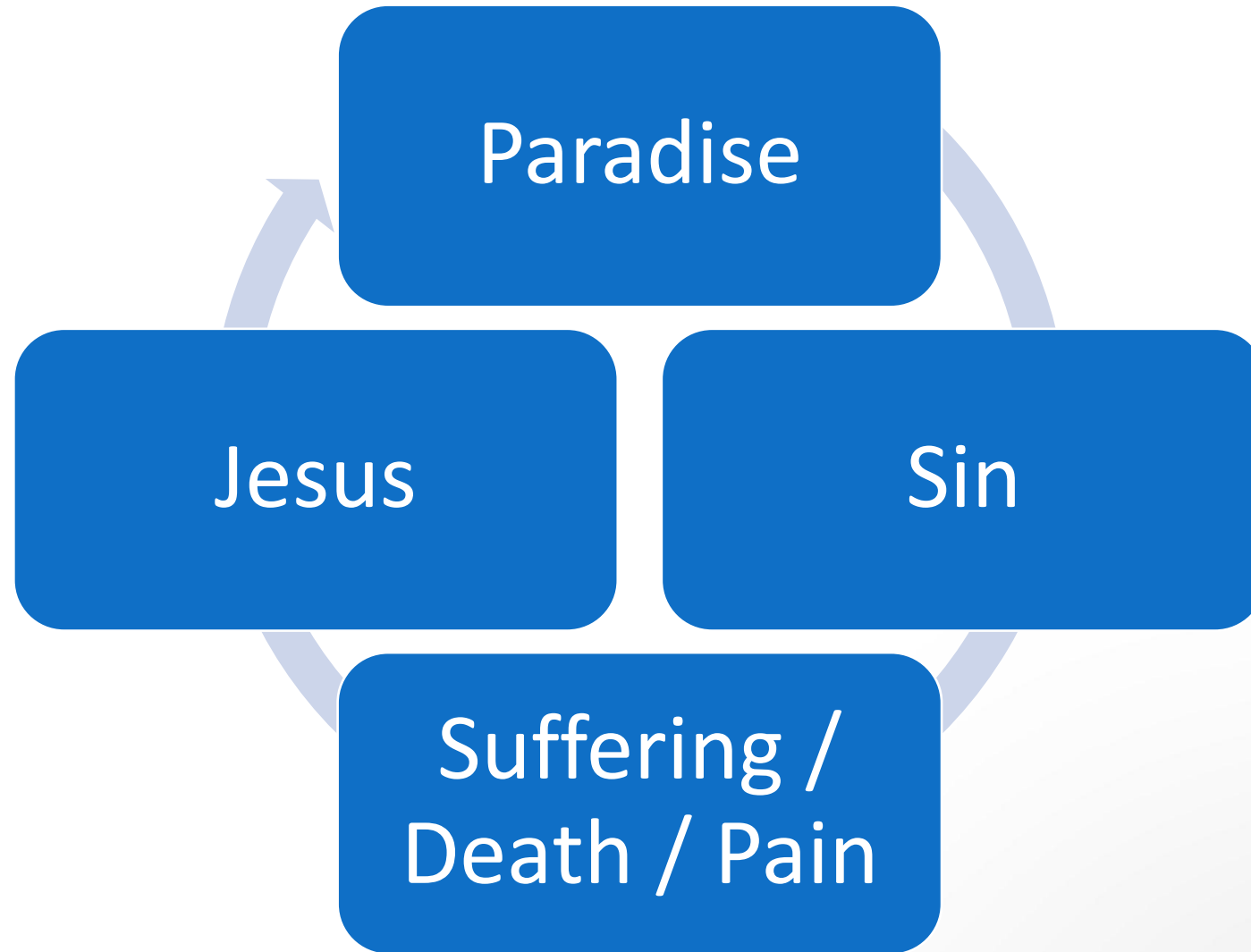
Ephesians 1:1-14

⁹ God has now revealed to us his mysterious will regarding Christ—which is to fulfill his own good plan. ¹⁰ And this is the plan: **At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth.** ¹¹ Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an **inheritance** from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan.

¹² God's purpose was that we Jews who were the **first** to trust in Christ would bring praise and glory to God. ¹³ And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. ¹⁴ The Spirit is God's **guarantee** that he will give us the **inheritance he promised** and that he has purchased us to **be his own people**. He did this so we would praise and glorify him.



Kingdom of God



Revelation 21 – New Heaven & New Earth

Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. **They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.** ⁴ ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, “**I am making everything new!**” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

⁶ He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ **Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.**

Ephesians 1:3-14

God.....

- **blessed** us (the church) with every spiritual blessing
- **chose and adopted** us into his own family, out of love
- **purchased** our freedom and forgave our sins through Christ's sacrifice
- revealed to us his plan to **bring everything together under the authority of Christ**
- **gave the Holy Spirit** to those who believed – marked with a seal as a guarantee of the **inheritance** and redemption to come

The church

- **received** an inheritance from God
- **trusted** in Christ
- **believed** in Christ
- **praised and glorified** him



Ephesians 1:15-18

¹⁵ Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God's people everywhere,¹⁶ I have not stopped thanking God for you.

I pray for you constantly, ¹⁷ asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. ¹⁸ I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.



Ephesians 1:15-18

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I pray for you constantly, ¹⁷ asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to **give you spiritual wisdom and insight** so that you might grow in your **knowledge of God**.

Knowledge – not just intellectual facts, experience and understanding, perfectly unites the subject with the object

World's oldest couple

Zelymra and Herbert Fisher

Married for 86 years

Both passed at the age of 105

Guinness World Record for
being married the longest



Ephesians 1:15-18

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¹⁸ **I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light** so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.

Heart – whole inward self, mind and emotion

Ephesians 1:15-18

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I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God.

¹⁸ I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light **so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called**—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.

Hope – certain, guaranteed expectation of the future, trust, confidence

Ephesians 1:15-18

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I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God.

¹⁸ I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—**his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.**

What is the Hope he has given?

- God is bringing all things in heaven and earth under the authority and headship of Jesus – he is making **all things new** – Kingdom of God is here
- We are part of this plan, his inheritance, partnering with God to redeem the human race – our lives have great **purpose** and meaning
- Our inheritance in God's kingdom is **secure** – we didn't earn it, were chosen by God and sealed by the Holy Spirit, he will complete it
- The **hope comes from God**, not us

God gives – we receive

God.....

- **blessed** us with every spiritual blessing
- **chose and adopted** us
- revealed his plan to **make all things new**
- **gave** the Holy Spirit
- **Wisdom, insight, knowledge, hope**

The church

- **received** an inheritance
- **trusted** in Christ
- **believed** in Christ
- **praised and glorified** him



God gives – we receive

¹³ I pray that God, the **source of hope**, will fill you completely with joy and peace because [as] you **trust** in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

The church

- **received** an inheritance
- **trusted** in Christ
- **believed** in Christ
- **praised and glorified** him

Psalm 143

Hear my prayer, O LORD; listen to my plea! Answer me because **you are faithful and righteous**.... ³ My enemy has chased me. He has knocked me to the ground and forces me to live in darkness like those in the grave.

⁴ **I am losing all hope; I am paralyzed with fear.**

⁵ I **remember** the days of old. I ponder all your great works and think about what you have done.

⁶ I **lift my hands to you in prayer**. I thirst for you as parched land thirsts for rain....

MISSOURI

SLU to cut some faculty and staff jobs, eliminate 80 vacant positions

by: [Joey Schneider](#)

Posted: Jul 2, 2026 / 03:55 PM CDT

Updated: Jul 2, 2026 / 03:55 PM CDT

*Saint Louis University*

- God is making **all things new** – Kingdom of God is here
- I am part of this plan – my life has great **purpose** and meaning
- My inheritance in God's kingdom is **secure** – I didn't earn it
- The **hope comes from God** – I respond and make myself available to the HS

Where do you need to understand God's hope for you today?

I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.

- Ephesians 1:18

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.

- Hebrews 6:19

Going forward - How can you make yourself available to the holy spirit so you can grow in wisdom, knowledge, insight – so that your hope in God's promises changes the way you live in this world?

